

Thomas Posey collection

S1072

This finding aid was produced using the Archivists' Toolkit

July 29, 2015

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Rare Books and Manuscripts
140 North Senate Avenue
Indianapolis, Indiana, 46204
317-232-3671

Table of Contents

<u>Summary Information</u>	3
<u>Biographical Note/Historical Note</u>	4
<u>Scope and Contents</u>	4
<u>Arrangement</u>	5
<u>Administrative Information</u>	5
<u>Controlled Access Headings</u>	5

Summary Information

Repository	Rare Books and Manuscripts
Creator	Marshall, Starling L.
Creator	Montrose, Colorado
Creator	Taliaferro, John, 1768-1852
Title	Thomas Posey collection
Date	1776-1839
Extent	0.01 Cubic feet 1 folder
Language	English
Text [Folder]	S1072

Preferred Citation

Thomas Posey collection, Rare Books and Manuscripts, Indiana State Library

Biographical Note/Historical Note

Thomas Posey (1750-1818) was born in Fairfax County, Virginia, and received little formal education. At the age of 19 he went to the Virginia frontier where he enlisted in that state's militia and fought the Indians beyond the western frontier in 1774. During the American Revolution he enlisted as a captain and was later promoted to major in the 7th Virginia Regiment, seeing action at the Battle of Saratoga and against the Indians on the Pennsylvania. In 1782 he was promoted to lieutenant colonel. Posey remained in the military after the war and in 1793 he became a brigadier general serving with Anthony Wayne in the campaign against the Indians of the Northwest.

In 1794 Posey resigned his commission and moved to Kentucky where he was elected to the state Senate and became lieutenant governor in 1806. When British and French involvement in the west became a threat in 1809 he returned to military service with the rank of major general in command of the Kentucky volunteers.

Posey moved to Louisiana where he served as a U. S. Senator from 1812-1813, and in February, 1813, he was appointed governor of the Indiana Territory succeeding William Henry Harrison. Posey remained territorial governor until Indiana became a state in December 1816. (During his term as governor he resided in Jeffersonville rather than in Corydon because of poor health which resulted in some criticism from the legislature for his inaccessibility.) Posey was defeated by Jonathan Jennings in Indiana's first gubernatorial election and was also defeated by Thomas Hendricks in his bid for a U.S. Congressional seat from Indiana in 1817. From 1816 until his death Posey served as agent for Indian Affairs in the Illinois Territory. Posey was married to Mary Matthews from 1772 until her death in 1778, and they had one son who lived to adulthood. In 1784 he married Mary (Alexander) Thornton and had nine children.

Sources:

Dictionary of American Biography, vol. 8, pp. 111-112.

<http://www.indianahistory.org>

Scope and Contents

This collection includes a letter to Thomas Posey from John Taliaferro on March 3, 1813 announcing Posey's nomination of Governor of Indiana Territory; a short biography on "General Thomas Posey as Civilian and Politician" by Starling L. Marshall, January 16, 1934; a relinquish of dower as recorded in the Rockbridge, Virginia Property Conveyance of Mary Posey, May 23, 1801; and notes taken by Colorado Montrose from the Congressional Library, Washington, D.C. on April 13, 1933, regarding the controversy between Generals Anthony Wane and Thomas Posey, pages 3-5 with half page introduction.

Arrangement

This collection is arranged chronologically.

Administrative Information

Publication Information

Rare Books and Manuscripts

Conditions Governing Access

This collection is open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

Legal title, copyright, and literary rights reside with Rare Books and Manuscripts, Indiana State Library, Indianapolis, IN. All requests to publish or quote from manuscripts must be submitted to Rare Books and Manuscripts.

Custodial History

This collection was received by Rare Books and Manuscripts as donation from F. H. Posey on 1934/05/16.

Accruals

No further additions are expected.

Processing Information

Collection processing completed 2015/06/18 by Linda Gellert. EAD finding aid created 2015/06/18 by Linda Gellert.

Controlled Access Headings

Geographic Name(s)

- Rockbridge County (Va.)

Personal Name(s)

- Posey, Mary, 1754-1837
- Posey, Thomas, 1750-1818
- Wayne, Anthony, 1745-1796

Subject(s)

- Correspondence
- Indiana--Politics and government--19th century